Dear WVA members,

I hope that you had a relaxing summer break and you are ready now to resume your tasks and to advance veterinary matters.

The WVA launched on 6th September a call for nominations for WVA Elections 2020 for WVA President-Elect and 14 WVA Councillors. Consistent good leadership is the key to WVA’s success. More than ever, the WVA needs a Council composed of good leaders who are engaged, know how to achieve goals and inspire people along the way.

The next few months are extremely important for the future of the WVA. I would like to stress the importance of the WVA Constituent Members to consider and to nominate the best people for the WVA leader positions. Good WVA leaders are essential to assuring the most effective voice and valuable impact for the veterinary profession around the world for years to come. The future of the WVA, is in your hands.

The Deadline for application submission is 6th December 2019. Click HERE to access all the necessary information regarding the WVA Elections 2020 and application submission procedure.

AFRICAN SWINE FEVER

African Swine Fever is continuing to spread in different parts of the world. I attended recently the Asian Pig Veterinary Society Congress 2019 that was held in Seoul, South Korea. As President of the World Veterinary Association, I took the opportunity to emphasize the importance of ASF prevention and control measures and the efforts done by veterinary services in a number of Asian countries to keep the ASF-free status.

AMAZON RAINFOREST FIRE

From the other side of the world, we hear widely about the Amazon rainforest (often referred to as “the lungs of the earth) fires that may affect the world’s ecological balance. I would like to take this opportunity and to remind the veterinary profession about its rule in safeguarding the ecological balance using the One Health concept and approach. In this
regard, the WVA together with the OIE, FAO, WHO Tripartite are preparing the 7th Summit meeting on One Health with the theme of “Climate change and its future impact on disease burdens, food security, and the economy” that will take place during the WVAC2020 in New Zealand on 6-8th April 2020.

**ANIMAL WELFARE AWARDS 2020**

Last but not least, I would like to remind you that the WVA and Ceva Animal Health launched recently the Animal Welfare Awards 2020. This year, in addition to the awards for veterinarians and veterinary students, the WVA and Ceva added new award categories for veterinary technician/nurse and veterinary school/college to recognize their involvement and engagement in animal welfare. The WVA Animal Welfare Awards will be presented to the 6 selected champions in animal welfare at the opening ceremony of the WVAC2020 where the selected winners will be invited to receive the WVA Animal Welfare Award and a monetary prize of 5,000 Euros.

The WVA needs your expertise and participation for the world to hear our message on our role as veterinarians for the global public good. We need your input as Constituent Members or Observers for our discussions. Don’t be left out of the process!

**Please forward this info-news to your individual members**

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